

APPENDIX IX

(See section 28)

Detailed instructions regarding arrangements for the collection, carriage and distribution of grass

As soon as a fodder famine appears to be imminent, the provisions of section 28 of the Famine Relief Code should be complied with. An essential point to be discussed at the meeting ordered therein to be convened should be the special railway arrangements, *e. g.*, the provision of temporary sidings for loading grass, &c., which may be called for by the special circumstances of the time.

2. An officer on special duty, preferably the Senior Conservator, should be appointed at the earliest opportunity to direct and superintend all arrangements connected with the purchase, collection, transport and delivery of fodder to the affected areas. His first duty should be to ascertain (a) where and to what extent private stocks of fodder are available for purchase, (b) the amount of grass which is available in forest and revenue waste lands in the Presidency for cutting and baling and (c) what supplies can be obtained to supplement these from similar areas outside the Presidency, if the local supply is insufficient.

3. Simultaneously with these inquiries the officer on special duty should ascertain from the Collector of each affected district the probable amount of fodder which will have to be imported; and the places at which the imported grass will have to be laid down.

4. When a fodder famine is threatened, all sales of grass from forests and revenue waste lands should be deferred or postponed until the officer on special duty has determined whether he will require the grass in particular areas or not. The departmental cutting of grass in the areas selected for the supply of fodder should commence as early as possible and in view of the experience gained of the extreme difficulty of obtaining labour for cutting grass, the revenue officers should employ their influence fully in order to induce the people to go on the grass-cutting work in sufficient numbers. Steam-baling should be resorted to in preference to hand-baling wherever the quantity of grass, which can be collected in a pressing centre, is sufficient to justify it. The Railway should give preference to pressed over unpressed fodder in all cases where the latter may be offered for despatch. If necessary jail labour may be employed for collecting and cutting grass and the Senior Conservator should arrange with the Inspector General of Prisons for the employment of gangs of prisoners when the emergency arises.

5. To carry on until the new grass crop is available, the officer on special duty should proceed at once to purchase grass from old stocks in the most convenient places, even though by a change in the situation the grass thus bought should subsequently have to be re-sold at a loss. The maximum amount of grass to be purchased in this manner should be limited to fifty lakhs of pounds for each affected district. This grass will be available for removal by the Railways as soon as it is indented for by Collectors or Political Agents. It should be noted that the Railway authorities are particularly anxious that the transport of grass should commence at the earliest possible date in order to avoid congestion of traffic.

6. In a severe famine the total quantity of the grass that can be collected by Government agency will generally fall short of the amount needed for the affected districts, and it will be the duty of the officer on special duty to consider the best way of supplying the deficiency by purchase through contractors. In order to effect this economically and to prevent, by simultaneous purchases in different places, the raising of prices by dealers, the officer on special duty should be given temporarily the services of a sufficient number of responsible officers whom he will depute to visit the localities in which he has reason to believe grass is procurable. These officers will enter into contracts for the supply to Government of a fixed quantity of grass on the best terms obtainable and the contracts will be arranged in such manner as to enable each district to be supplied from the purchasing centre which is nearest to it.

7. When the purchases have been effected, the officer on special duty will inform the Railway authorities of the quantities of grass which will require to be carried from each purchasing centre situated on their respective system, the stations of delivery and the date from which operations may be expected to commence.

8. When a charitable relief society has been started—part of whose operations are to be directed towards the distribution of fodder—the officer on special duty should place himself in communication with the officers of such society and ascertain the localities in which they propose to purchase grass, the funds at their disposal and approximately the quantities which they hope to purchase. This will enable the officer on special duty to arrange that unnecessary competition between the agents of the charitable relief society and his own agents (*i.e.*, the officers mentioned in paragraph 6 above) shall be avoided. The officer on special duty and his agents will generally be in a position to render assistance to the society in the despatch of the society's grass to the affected areas to which they wish it to be consigned; and the officer on special duty will communicate to the

authorities of the Railways concerned the fact that the fodder which is to be despatched is being sent with the knowledge and approval of Government and that wagons may be supplied.

9. In times of stress such as famine departmental regulations such as the customs restrictions imposed at Viramgam, which are likely to hamper the free movement of railway waggons, should be relaxed as far as may be practicable.

10. As regards the distribution of the grass when it is received in the district to which it has been consigned, two methods can be followed :—

A. The Collector can manage the whole business himself and arrange to have the grass consigned to depôts along the railway line, and appoint depôt keepers to manage them, who will work directly under the Mamlatdar of the taluka in which the depôt is situated. The following procedure for the receipt and issue of grass at the depôt should as far as possible be followed at all grass depôts :—

(a) Every bale should be weighed on receipt and ticketted with its weight so determined, unless it is given out immediately when it need not be ticketted. For this purpose each depôt must have two or three spring balances—which should be purchased by the Mamlatdar. These balances must be frequently tested as they are liable to get inaccurate after some weeks' use.

(b) The grass of every consignment, *i.e.*, the bales covered by each railway receipt, must be kept separate from that of every other consignment, and the tickets showing the weight of each bale shall also show the serial number of the consignment as given in the book of receipts mentioned below.

(c) In giving out grass the bale shall be considered to weigh the nearest multiple of 10 lbs. over the actual as ticketted weight, *e.g.*, a bale which weighs 163 lbs. shall be given out as weighing 160 lbs. and one weighing 167 lbs. as weighing 170 lbs.

(d) Grass disbursements and receipts shall be recorded in two separate books in the Forms No. I and No. II attached to this Appendix. The pages of these books must be numbered and sealed.

(e) A counterfoil receipt book shall be kept for all cash payments accepted for grass and a receipt given by the depôt karkun to every cash purchaser.

B. The following system prevailing in the Central Provinces may be adopted where found suitable. According to this system the Mamlatdar indents on the Forest Department Special Officer for waggon loads of grass. Each indent must be either for one waggon load or a definite number of full waggon loads. Before sending his indent the Mamlatdar must collect cash from purchasers to the full value of the consignment or arrange for advances of takavi to them up to the amount required. On receipt of the indent, the Forest Department despatches the grass and sends the railway receipt for the consignment to the Mamlatdar per V. P. post. On arrival at the station to which it has been consigned delivery is taken either by the Mamlatdar, who gives over the grass immediately to the purchasers, or direct by the purchasers to whom he hands over the railway receipts as they are received. All risk of damage by fire or rain and all expense in connection with hiring land for a depôt and carting grass to it is thus eliminated. The district and taluka officers are also saved a great deal of work and anxiety at a time when they are generally over-burdened.

Form No. I [vide Sub-section (d) of para. 10, A]

Name of person to whom given.	Village.	How many bales.	Weight of each bale.	Serial number of consignment to which bales belong and price fixed (columns 1 and 8 of receipt book).	Takavi or cash.	Amount debitable.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			lbs.			Rs. a. p.	
Moti Vaghji ...	Valana ...	3	170 170 170	No. 27. (Rs. 14 per 1,000 lbs.).	Takavi ...	7 0 0	Debited in Taluka Form 15.
			Total 510				
Ambalal Lallubhai, Circle Inspector.	Viramgam...	2	150 150	No. 28. (Rs. 15 per 1,000 lbs.).	Cash ...	4 8 0	Paid.
			Total 300				
&c. ...	&c. ...	&c.	&c. ...	&c. ...	&c. ...	&c. ...	&c.

Form No. II [vide Sub-section (d) of para. 10, A]

Serial number of consignment.	Name of consignor and whence consigned.	Particulars given in railway receipt.			How many bales received.	Weight of each bale as found on delivery (in pounds).	Selling price as fixed by Collector.	Remarks.
		Receipt No.	Waggon No.	How many bales.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
27	A. B. C. Dahanu.	No. 4280 of 12th March 1912.	4372-B 5903-X 1201-A	61 58 66	60 58 65	lbs.	Rs. 14 per 1,000 lbs.	Consignor's note shows a total weight of lbs. Received in metre gauge waggons Nos. 737, 642, 533 and 499- (e.g., for Ranpur). &c. &c.
						178		
						168		
						163		
						171		
						169		
						150		
						176		
						169		
						&c		
						Total Average 170		
28	X. Y. Z. Wangaon.	No. 211 of 11th March 1912.	492-C 727-A	58 57	58 68	142 159	Rs. 15 per 1 000 lbs.	&c. &c.
29	&c.	&c. ...	&c. ...	&c.	&c. ...	&c....	&c. ...	&c. &c.

APPENDIX X

(See section 152 of the Code)

Method of preparing cactus fodder and ration to be given to cattle

During the famines of 1918-19 and 1920-21, experience has proved that cactus fodder can be used with great advantage as an emergency fodder, and that the simplest methods of preparing and feeding it to cattle are as follows:—

(1) The cactus should be cut with sickles bound securely to long bamboos and brought to the cattle camp site or village on carts, unless there is a large supply immediately adjoining the cattle camp or village site.

(2) The cactus should be cut in pieces of a convenient size for lifting and holding over a furnace.

(3) Fresh green cactus should be selected for cutting as far as possible.

(4) On the camp site or in the village, an ordinary lohar's furnace should be prepared with the usual pair of leather bellows, which should be worked by the village lohar, or by persons specially put on dole for the job. Leather hand bellows and rotary fans, which can be obtained from the Agricultural Department, are also useful when sufficient pairs of big bellows are not available.

(5) The pieces of cactus should be held by means of iron tongs over the flames of the furnace, until all the thorns have been burned off the leaves, care being taken not to let the leaves become scorched or covered with soot, as, if this occurs, the fodder is apt to make the cattle scour.

(6) When all the thorns have been burned off the leaves should be handed to a party of dole recipients (who are fit to do light work), who should scrape them with blunt knives and rub them with a piece of cloth, thus, removing any stray thorn which may have been left and all soot which may have collected on the leaves. Most dole recipients, both decrepits and children, are capable of doing this work and can be usefully employed on it.

(7) When they have been thoroughly scraped and rubbed the leaves should be handed to coolies especially put on dole for the purpose, who should chop them into small pieces about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " square or into thin strips and place the pieces so cut into baskets ready for the cattle to feed; or if there is a chaff cutter available, the leaves should be passed through the chaff cutter and the strips then placed in baskets.

(8) A little salt should be mixed with the fodder in the baskets and some cotton seed or chuni, and the baskets should then be carried to the cattle and placed before them.

(9) The ration of cactus fodder must vary with the condition of the cattle and the length of time during which they have been fed on it. For cattle which are in poor condition and which are not accustomed to it, a small ration of 6 lbs. cactus and one to two pounds cotton seed or chuni with a little salt may be given in two feeds per day during the first week. If given in too large quantities at first, cactus fodder is apt to cause diarrhoea. As the cattle become accustomed to the fodder, the daily ration may be increased gradually up to 20 to 25 lbs. per day for a full grown bullock according to its size, the mixture of cotton seed or chuni being kept at one to two pounds per day